

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RANGOO 02681 031108Z

43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02 SNM-02 DEAE-00 AID-05 IGA-02

EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AGR-05 SAM-01 SAJ-01

/112 W

----- 113604

R 030920Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2058

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

DEA BANGKOK

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMCONSUL MANDALAY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 2681

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, NARC, BM

SUBJ: JOINT WEEKA #30, JULY 28 - AUGUST 3

CONTENTS

1. COUP PLOT AFTERMATH
2. GUB ANGERED WITH WASHINGTON POST
3. BSPP TO PURCHASE PRINTING PRESS
4. NARCOTICS: SEIZURES AND ARRESTS
5. NEW FRENCH, NIGERIAN AMBASSADORS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RANGOO 02681 031108Z

6. ADVANCE PADDY PURCHASE BEGINS

1. COUP PLOT AFTERMATH (CONF)

THE GUB'S RESPONSE TO THE ABORTED COUP PLOT HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY HEAVY-HANDED. LARGE NUMBERS OF YOUNGER OFFICERS, PERHAPS AS MANY AS 300, HAVE BEEN DETAINED FOR INTERROGATION, IN MOST CASES WITHOUT ANY EVIDENCE THAT THEY WERE INVOLVED IN THE PLOT AND ONLY BECAUSE THEY WERE CLASSMATES, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS OF THE CONSPIRATORS. ALSO, SEVERAL ADDITIONAL SENIOR OFFICERS, INCLUDING CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL KYAW HTIN AND NORTHWEST COMMAND (MANDALAY) COMMANDER COLONEL HLA TUN, ARE RUMORED TO BE IN TROUBLE THOUGH NOT DIRECTLY IMPLICATED IN THE PLOT. INFORMATION MINISTER U LWIN, A CLOSE CONFIDANT OF NE WIN AND FORMER MIS CHIEF KNOWN FOR HIS EXTREME VIEWS AND HEAVY-HANDED TACTICS, HAS REPORTEDLY BECOME VERY INFLUENTIAL IN SETTING THE REGIME'S POLICIES IN REACTION TO THE PLOT.

PLOT-RELATED THEMES HAVE BEEN STRESSED IN THE PRESS. ALL VERNACULAR PAPERS HAVE CARRIED EDITORIALS DENOUNCING THE CONSPIRATORS IN STRONG TERMS AND CALLING FOR "REVOLUTIONARY VIGILANCE" AGAINST SUCH "TRAITORS AND DESTRUCTIVE ELEMENTS WHO HAVE BETRAYED THE TATMADAW, THE STATE, AND THE NATIONAL CAUSE." EXTENSIVE FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE WAS GIVEN TO A SPEECH BY VICE CHIEF OF STAFF (ARMY) BRIG. GEN. AYE KO TO A COTVQE OF PARTY ORGANIZERS IN THE DEFENSE SERVICES. HE CALLED ON MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES TO UNDERSTAND THE LEADERSHIP ROLE OF THE PARTY AND FOLLOW ITS IDEOLOGICAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC POLICIES AND TO "HAVE REVOLUTIONARY VIGILANCE TO ELIMINATE THE SIBVERSIVES." THERE HAVE BEEN DAILY ACCOUNTS OF MILITARY PERSONNEL "VOLUNTEERING" THEIR SERVICES IN VARIOUS TYPES OF PUBLIC WELFARE WORK AS A GESTURE OF SUPPORT FOR NE WIN'S BSPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING SPEECH ANNOUNCING PAY INCREASES FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS, INCLUDING THE ARMED FORCES. ON U LWIN'S ORDERS, THE PRESS HAS ALSO BEEN GIVING EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO UNSUCCESSFUL COUP ATTEMPTS ELSEWHERE (E.G., SUDAN, TOGO) AND TO STORIES AND EDITORIALS ABOUT THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF OTHER COUNTRIES (SINCE ONE OF THE PLOTTERS' PRINCIPAL MOTIVATIONS WAS BURMA'S ECONOMIC PLIGHT).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 RANGOO 02681 031108Z

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE BUREAU CHIEF COLONEL TIN OO TOLD A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE THAT THE PUBLIC TRIAL OF THE PLOTTERS WOULD BEGIN THE LAST WEEK OF AUGUST.

2. GUB ANGERED WITH WASHINGTON POST (UNCL)

THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION IS REPORTEDLY "DISAPPOINTED AND ANGERED" OVER THE APPEARANCE IN THE BANGKOK-BASED BURMESE DISSIDENTS' WEEKLY JOURNAL "NEW STRENGTH" OF

A REPRINT OF LEWIS SIMON'S ARTICLE ON BURMA
PUBLISHED IN THE WASHINGTON POST
LAST MAY. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE GUB HAS DECIDED
TO GRANT NO FURTHER INTERVIEWS TO THE POST AND TO REFUSE
FUTURE REQUESTS FOR VISAS BY POST CORRESPONDENTS.
APPARENTLY SIMON'S ARTICLE DID NOT BECOME AN ISSUE
UNTIL IT WAS PUBLISHED BY "NEW STRENGTH."

3. BSPP TO PURCHASE PRINTING PRESS (UNCL)
LANZIN PARTY OFFICIALS HAVE REPORTEDLY REQUESTED THE
EXPORT-IMPORT CORPORATION TO CIRCULATE INTERNATIONAL
TENDERS FOR THE PURCHASE OF OFFSET PRINTING EQUIPMENT
SUITABLE FOR NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION. FOR SOME TIME THE
PARTY HAS BEEN INTERESTED IN PUBLISHING ITS OWN DAILY
BUT HAS BEEN IMPEDED BY THE LACK OF HARD CURRENCY.
DESPITE THE PRESENCE OF PARTY CADRES IN NEWS AGENCY
BURMA AND ON NEWSPAPER EDITORIAL STAFFS TO GIVE GUIDANCE,
PARTY OFFICIALS EVIDENTLY FEEL THAT EXISTING NEWSPAPERS
ARE NOT WHOLLY RESPONSIVE TO THE PARTY'S LEADERSHIP AND
GUIDANCE.

4. NARCOTICS: SEIZURES AND ARRESTS (UNCL)
ACCORDING TO LOCAL NEWSPAPERS, TWO ARRESTS IN RANGOON, ONE
WHICH LED TO THE OTHER, RESULTED IN THE SEIZURE OF NEARLY
TWO KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN. MORE THAN ONE KILO WAS FOUND
IN BULK; THE SECOND SEIZURE AMOUNTED TO KYAT 5,000 WORTH
OF HEROIN IN SMALLER CONTAINERS.

5. NEW FRENCH, NIGERIAN AMBASSADORS (UNCL)
THE GUB HAS GIVEN AGREEMENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF FRANCOIS
GEOFFRY-DECHAUME AS THE NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR, SUCCEEDING
HUBERT DE LA BRUCHOLLERIE. GEOFFROY-DECHAUME WAS MOST
RECENTLY CONSUL GENERAL IN HONG KONG AND SERVED PRE-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 RANGOO 02681 031108Z

VIOUSLY IN THE PRC, THAILAND, AND MEXICO AS WELL AS AT
THE U.N.
THE NEW NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR, ABUBAKAR GARBA GOBIR,
PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT NE WIN. HIS IS
RESIDENT IN NEW DELHI.

6. ADVANCE PADDY PURCHASE BEGINS (UNCL)
THE GUB AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS CORP. HAS BEGUN ADVANCE
PAYMENTS TO FARMERS FOR PURCHASE OF THEIR 1976-77 PADDY
CROP. FARMERS WHO WANT ADVANCE PAYMENTS TO OBTAIN CASH
FOR THEIR PRODUCTION NEEDS WILL RECEIVE K35 PER ACRE AT
CULTIVATION TIME AND A SECOND INSTALLMENT OF K15 PER
ACRE AT HARVEST TIME. ALL FARMERS MUST SIGN BONDS
PLEDGING TO SELL THEIR SURPLUS PADDY TO THE GOVERNMENT
WHETHER THEY TAKE ADVANCE PAYMENT OR NOT. THOSE FARMERS

WHO FAILED TO SELL THEIR LAST YEAR'S CROP TO THE GOVERN-
MENT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ADVANCE PAYMENTS.
OSBORN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RANGOO02681
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760298-0889
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760892/aaaadcud.tel
Line Count: 172
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 SEP 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOINT WEEKA #30, JULY 28 - AUGUST 3 CONTENTS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SNAR, BM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006